## BATHING AT DIEPPE.

**When the Comtesse de Boigne Tried It In the Year 1806.**

The Comtesse de Boigne in her memoirs gives an account of a visit she paid in 1806, which is interesting in view of the position Dieppe now holds among French watering places.

"The poverty of the inhabitants," she says, "was frightful. The Englishman, as they called him (and for them he was worse than the devil), was cruising incessantly before their empty harbor. With much difficulty a boat was able to escape from time to time and go fishing, always at the risk of being captured by the foreigner or confiscated upon the return journey if the telescopes of the watchers had seen it approach a vessel.

"As for the comforts arranged for the convenience of bathers which Dieppe has since organized, they were nonexistent at that time. My brother was able to find a little covered cart, and with great trouble and great expense, notwithstanding the universal poverty, a man was hired to lead the horses down to the sea and two women to go into the sea with me.

"These preparations raised the public surprise and curiosity to such a pitch that my first bath was watched by a crowd on the shore. My servants were asked if I had been bitten by a mad dog.

"I aroused extreme pity as I went by, and it was thought that I was being taken down to be drowned. An old gentleman called on my father to point out to him that he was assuming a great responsibility in permitting so rash an act. It can hardly be imagined that the inhabitants of a seashore could be so afraid of the sea.

"But at that time the people of Dieppe were chiefly occupied in keeping out of sight of it and in protecting themselves from the disasters which they feared the sea might bring, so that it was for them nothing more than a means of annoyance and suffering. It is curious to think that ten years later bathers were arriving in hundreds, that special arrangements were made for their convenience and that sea bathing of every kind went on without producing any astonishment in the neighborhood.

"I have thus attempted to point out that the custom of sea bathing, which is now so universal, is comparatively recent in France, for Dieppe was the first place where it began."

## TREE DWELLING ANTS.

**South American Insect That Acts as Plant Guardian.**

Ant defenders of plants and trees are some of nature's pretty marvels. The Cecropia adenopus is a remarkable tree of south Brazil, widely distributed through the tropics. Its slender trunk is crowned with long leaves at the ends of the branches.

A few active ants run continually along the branches and the leaves, but if the tree is shaken slightly an army of ants rushes out by small apertures ready for a savage assault on the intruder. The ant is the terrible guardian that the tree has retained to protect it from its most formidable enemy, the leaf cutter ant.

The defenders rarely leave their retreat, where they live on small whitish egg shaped bodies about one-twelfth of an inch long, known as Mueller's corpuscles. These are formed of delicate tissue, rich in proteids and ail, as rations for the garrison of defender ants to feed upon. The curious arrangement by which entrance is made to the hollow stem has been studied by W. Schimper.

Just above the point of insertion of each leaf extends nearly to the superior node a superficial groove, at whose end is a rounded depression. There the tissue is thin, like a diaphragm in a tube, and it also is soft. The hole by which the ant enters is always pierced at this spot. The ants seem to have made their entrance through the groove originally because it was at the top. In the course of this plant's further development natural selection augmented these natural advantages, so that finally the thin, frail diaphragm as it exists today was developed.—Chicago Tribune.

**Married the Day They Met.**

Horace Greeley and Mary Young Cheney were married the first day they met. They had corresponded for some time, a common friend who was something of a matchmaker having brought this about. She was all his fancy painted her, but she was much disappointed in his appearance, so much so that when he appeared before her, having proposed and been accepted by letter, she frankly told him that, although she married him, she was not in love with him. Their married life was long and happy, and the loss of his wife was a blow which Greeley did not long survive.

**Tommy's Lunch.**

Uncle (who left his nephew "refreshing")—Well, Tommy, you see I'm back. Are you ready? What have I to pay, miss? Waitress—Three buns, four sponge cakes, two sandwiches, one jelly, five tarts and— Uncle—Good gracious, boy! Are you not ill? Tommy—No, uncle, but I'm very thirsty.—London Tit-Bits.

**British Pride.**

British hypocrisy is gradually disappearing. Until a few years ago most Englishmen fancied that to be born in the United Kingdom was to be a paragon of all the virtues.—Brussels Soir.

**Envy.**

"Don't be covetous," said Uncle Eben. "Envyin' what yoh neighbor has is mighty apt to put de opportunity in yoh neighbor's way foh handin' yoh a gold brick."—Washington Star.

# Young Folks

## THE NAMES OF STATES.

**Majority of Them Were Handed Down From the Indians.**

Do you know why your state was so named? Do you know that the majority of the states of the Union were named after the Indians? It is so. See the list:

Ohio is Indian and means "beautiful;" Massachusetts, "about great hills;" Utah, "mountain home;" Texas, from the Indian word "teaches," which means "friends." Kansas gets its name from the Indians, and the word means "smoky waters." The word Wyoming comes from the Indian and means "broad valleys;" Nebraska, "black water;" Missouri, "muddy water;" Iowa, "across;" Wisconsin, "rushing waters;" Illinois, from "Illini," which means "tribe of men;" Kentucky, meaning "at head of river;" Oregon, from War-e-gan, "beautiful water." Arizona means "uncertain," because of the desert land where the Indians found game scarce; therefore a journey through that portion of the country was uncertain. New Mexico was named after Mexico proper, and the word comes from "Mexitl" of the ancient Aztecs and signifies "god of war."

The Indians call great lakes "seas," and "seas" in Indian is "Michigan."

Mississippi is named after the river which is so called by the red man because of its greatness in width and length. The word means "father of waters."

The two Dakotas were so named after the Dakota Indians, which at one time embraced an immense tribe, all the branches of the Sioux.

There are states which do not owe their names to the Indians. California is named after an imaginary island of Spanish romance; Nevada means "snowy;" Colorado is so named because of the red granite and sandstone rocks which are everywhere in the mountain regions. Florida means flowers.

## FACTS ABOUT FLAGS.

**Significance of Various Colors and the Way They Are Used.**

To "strike the flag" is to lower the national colors in token of submission.

A "flag of truce" is a white flag displayed to an enemy to indicate a desire for a parley or consultation.

The white flag is also a sign of peace. After a battle parties from both sides often go out to the field to rescue the wounded or bury the dead under the protection of the white flag.

The red flag is a sign of defiance and is often used by revolutionists. In our naval service it is a mark of danger and shows a vessel to be receiving or discharging her powder.

The black flag is a sign of piracy.

The yellow flag shows a vessel to be in quarantine or is the sign of a contagious disease on board.

A flag at half mast means mourning. Fishing and other vessels return with a flag at half mast to announce the loss or death of one or more of the crew.

Dipping the flag is lowering it slightly and then hoisting it again to salute a vessel or fort.

If the president of the United States goes afloat the American flag is carried in the bow of his barge or hoisted at the main of the vessel on board of which he is.

The president also has a flag—a blue ground with the arms of the United States in the center. This was first used in 1883 by President Arthur.

When a flag is displayed "with the union down"—that is, the flag reversed—it is a signal of distress and a call for assistance.

**A Mistake Somewhere.**


"A CATalogue at a DOG show!"
Cried Jane. "How very queer!
Bring me a DOGalogue, if you please.
There's something wrong, I fear!"
—Washington Star.

**Alliteration—A Game.**

This game can be played by any number of persons, each of whom is required to write a story in which each word shall begin with a given letter of the alphabet. The stories may be required to be of the same length, as agreed upon beforehand, or a stated time may be allowed for writing. When all have finished the stories are read aloud, and he whose story is the best, as decided by a majority of the players, is declared the winner.

**The Land of Lie-a-Bed.**

The lazy land of Lie-a-Bed
Has two fat pillows at the head,
A downy comfort spread all neat
And restful from the head to feet.
A drowsy, dreamy place to stay
And yawn, "I'll not get up today,"
And many children like to go
To wonder-wander here, you know.

It is a pleasant land, and yet
If I were you I would forget
The pathway there and follow back
The shining merry morning track.
The dream world lies too far away
From honest work and happy play.
And you must heed what you have read
And shun the land of Lie-a-Bed
—Youth's Companion.

## CROWD IN FRONT OF ELECTION BULLETIN BOARDS.

The leading newspapers in all the large American cities erect special bulletin boards in front of their offices on which the election returns are posted in giant letters as they arrive by telegraph. Great multitudes fill the streets in front of these bulletins and as long as the result is unsettled party spirit is in the ascendant. When the matter is made final the victors supply all the enthusiasm.

**The Telltale Hand.**

A writer in an English weekly declares that if we want to know what the other person is thinking we must look at his or her hands. Even unpracticed lips can lie, as every one knows. Long practice in self control will enable one to keep one's voice sweetly cordial when there is nothing but indifference or cold dislike behind it. The eyes can be made to shoot glances which are not at all a register for the emotions. But the hands, it is asserted, are utterly beyond the control of those to whom they belong. Even people who hardly gesticulate at all—and to keep the hands still is considered by the Anglo-Saxon a most essential part of good breeding—even these people are, it seems, constantly revealing themselves in little movements of the hands. The immortal Mulvaney has put it on record that a woman's truth or untruth can be discerned by the action of her hands. Of course it takes a practiced reader to interpret what the hands are saying. It is not a case of "he who runs may read."

**Queer Furs.**

"This is cat fur," said a furrier. "We use it for linings. An excellent lining cat fur makes too. Dogs, calves, colts, coons, opossums, bats, rats—any animal that wears fur, in fact, is salable in the fur market. Bat hair is felted up with other stuff into an imitation skin. It is also used, I believe, in rope plaiting. The dog, the coon and the opossum yield a fur that, properly treated, makes a very handsome lining. Rat skins are employed in certain delicate repairs, and they also serve to form the thumbs of cheap gloves. A queer thing about the fur business is that the furs must be taken in the dead of winter. The trapper must work under the cruelest climatic conditions. Only thus is the fur at its best. The dresser, on the other hand, who could work best in cold weather, must do all his work in the heat of summer or otherwise he would not be able to keep up with the changing fashions."—Exchange.

**The Magical Mirror.**

An ordinary mirror of any size or shape, a piece of French chalk pointed so that it can be used to write and a silk handkerchief are the requisites. Draw upon the mirror with the chalk any design or words you choose. With the handkerchief wipe the glass lightly until it is perfectly clear and no writing or design is apparent. Having all this prepared beforehand, show to some one and request that he breathe gently on the face of the glass, when he will see a picture of his future wife, for the design drawn will show very distinctly. This can again be wiped off, and if breathed upon the design will be again visible.

**An Odorless Disinfectant.**

If one objects to the odor of carbolic acid, he may use for the plumbing an odorless disinfectant prepared as follows: Dissolve half a pound of permanganate of potash in four gallons of water and pour this carefully down the pipes. This solution, if allowed to stand in bowls or basins, will stain them purple. The stains may be removed with a weak solution of oxalic acid. The acid must be rinsed off immediately after it has been used.

**A Hindrance.**

Suburbanite—You are half an hour late this morning. Letter Carrier—Yes, ma'am. The sections of stovepipe I have to wear inside my trousers legs on account of the dogs you keep along this street hamper my movements, ma'am."—Chicago Tribune.

**Why She Held on to It.**

Mrs. Willful—My husband told me if I didn't like the brooch you'd exchange it for me. Jeweler—Certainly, madam. I'll be only too glad, as four different ladies of your set want it.

**"Side!"**

"Side" in the creed of the British public—and thank heaven for the tenet—is the unpardonable sin, and in no game is it more objectionable, or more sure of detection, than in lawn tennis.—Fry's Magazine.

**Had Been Anticipated.**

A London composer was one summer engaged on the score of an opera, and as the weather was very hot he worked with the windows of his study open. This fact was taken advantage of by his neighbor, a lady, an accomplished musician, with a very quick and retentive ear, to play upon him a harmless practical joke.

One morning he completed and tried over a new march, and the lady on the same afternoon seated herself at her grand piano, opened her windows and rolled forth the air fortissimo. The composer rushed distractedly into his garden to his wife and, tearing his hair in anguish, cried out:

"My dear, I give it up! I thought I had composed an original tune, but it must be a delusion, for my grand march—my chef d'oeuvre, as I thought it—is only a reminiscence and is already the property of some music publisher!"

**They Sat Down.**

One night at a theater some scenery took fire, and a very perceptible odor of burning alarmed the spectators. A panic seemed to be imminent when an actor appeared on the stage.

"Ladies and gentlemen," he said, "compose yourselves. There is no danger."

The audience did not seem reassured.

"Ladies and gentlemen," continued the comedian, rising to the necessity of the occasion—"confound it all—do you think if there was any danger I'd be here?"

The panic collapsed.

**England's Mother Church.**

The oldest frequented church in England is probably St. Martin's, at Canterbury, and you may call it the mother church of England. Walk up from the outskirts of the city and you will pass the font which gave baptism to King Ethelbert 1,300 years ago. The font still stands, the worshipers still mount the slope, and one considers whether it was Augustine or Bertha who dragged the king and husband to that font.—London Chronicle.

**A Gallant Clergyman.**

It is said that the Rev. Sydney Smith could be gallant as well as witty on occasion.

"Oh, Mr. Smith, I cannot bring this flower to perfection," said a young lady to him once as she showed him about her conservatory.

Whereupon he took her by the hand and said, "Then let me bring perfection to the flower."

**A "Place of Learning."**

Sydney Smith, once asked why a certain college was called a place of learning, replied that, although a great many had been there to get learning, no one had ever taken learning away; hence it was appropriately named.

**Officeholders.**

"Well, there's one thing to be said for public servants."

"What's that?"

"When you hire one you never have any trouble keeping him."—Cleveland Leader.

**Out of Mind.**

Fenton—At first he was simply crazy about her, but now he neglects her shamefully. Sloanes—I see. At first he went out of his mind, and then she went out of his mind."

No man can be wise on an empty stomach.—George Eliot.

**He Explained.**

At a school one day a teacher, having asked most of his pupils the difference between an island and a peninsula without receiving a satisfactory answer, came to the last boy.

"I can explain it, sir," said the bright youth. "First get two glasses. Fill one with water and the other with milk. Then catch a fly and place it in the glass of water. That fly is an island, because it is entirely surrounded by water. But now place the fly in the glass of milk, and it will be a peninsula, because it is nearly surrounded by water."

The boy went to the top of the class.

**He Was Very Charitable.**

Among the features of a charity bazaar held in London was a refreshment stall, to which charitable donors contributed supplies, thus enabling all the takings to represent clear profits. The lady in charge requested a gift for this purpose from a well known and wealthy gentleman in the city, but one not famous for "parting." To her surprise she received next day a note to the effect that he was sending her a sirloin of beef and two ox tongues.

The same morning the lady happened to go to her butcher (who was also the butcher of Mr. X.), and, after giving him a large order for her stall, asked him if he would like himself to give anything.

"I should very much, ma'am," replied the worthy tradesman, "but I yesterday gave to Mr. X., at his request for this purpose, a sirloin of beef and three ox tongues."

Net gain to Mr. X.: One ox tongue and a cheap reputation for charity!—London Standard.

**St. Augustine and His Flower.**

St. Augustine of Hippo, the great doctor of the church, whose festival falls on Aug. 28, is a sadly neglected saint among modern ritualists and even occasionally confused with his namesake, who insulted the British bishops. Yet he is pronounced by Hooker "without any equal" and regarded by Harnack as "the first modern man." He has been better honored in the floral world, for to him is dedicated the goldenrod, or woundwort (Solidago virga-aurea). Old Gerard, with whom this was a favorite remedy, tells us that goldenrod fetched a high price as a foreign herb until discovered growing near London, when the plant was neglected. He adds the caustic comment, "This verifieth our English proverb, 'Far fetcht and dear boughte is best for ladies,' or for fantastical physitions." Before tobacco the goldenrod also furnished snuff for our mediaeval forefathers.—Westminister Gazette.

**It Did Not Work.**

Mr. Seabury and his wife were on the point of moving to another flat. Both of them were anxious that the transfer should be made at the least possible expense, and the nearness of the new home promised materially to further this aim.

"I can carry loads of little things over in my brown bag," announced Mrs. Seabury, "and you can take books and so on in your big satchel."

In discussing further the matter of transportation Mrs. Seabury remarked that notwithstanding the heat she could wear her winter coat over, leave it and return for her spring coat. The idea charmed her impractical husband.

"Why, I can do the same thing!" he said. "I'll wear over one suit and then come back for another!"—Youth's Companion.

**Hard on the Messenger.**

Tommy had been spanked by Miss Manners, his first grade teacher, but his next teacher had not reached the point where she felt she could do justice to him in spite of all his naughtiness.

"Send him to me when you want him spanked," said Miss Manners one morning after her colleague had related his many misdemeanors.

About 11 o'clock Tommy appeared at Miss Manners' door. She dropped her book, grasped him firmly by the hand, led him to the dressing room, turned him over her knee and administered punishment.

When she had finished she said, "Now, Tommy, what have you to say?"

"Please, miss, my teacher wants the scissors," was the unexpected reply.—Success Magazine.

**What the Duke Meant.**

His grace the Duke of Argyll was addressing a select company in a London drawing room on the present state of things in South Africa. "I look forward to the time," he said, "when the Englishman will marry the Boer girl and have an English wife as well!" Respectable dowagers looked their surprise, and the men began to smile. Then the duke carefully explained that he meant, of course, that the Boer girl should become an Englishwoman to all intents and purposes.—Reynolds' Newspaper.

**A Source of Joy.**

"What seems to be the matter with Mrs. Brown that she's ailing so?"

"Why, poor thing, she's got one of those newfangled diseases."

"She has? My, how fortunate she is, to be sure. Here I've had nothing more stylish than lumbago, and I'm three years older than she is."—Detroit Free Press.

**Smart Set English.**

The speech of the smart man and woman sufficiently betrays the modern attitude. To speak good English is middle class. The modern vocabulary is very small, and the greater part of it is composed of slang.—Black and White.

**Stuck to It.**

Her Husband—If a man steals, no matter what it is, he will live to regret it. His Wife—During our courtship you used to steal kisses from me. Her Husband—Well, you heard what I said.

**Easy.**

Jack—The fortune teller said I would marry a blond. Belle—Did she say how soon? Jack—In six months. Belle (coyly)—I can easily be a blond by that time, Jack.—Sketch.

**Any man may make a mistake. None but a fool will stick to it. Second thoughts are best, as the proverb says.—Cicero.**

# FARM AND GARDEN

## THE NITROGEN PROBLEM.

**It Is Not Solved as Easily as Some Farmers Suppose.**

The nitrogen problem is solvable, but not solved so easily as some people suppose. One speaker at a farmers' institute said: "A rotation including sufficient clover or other legumes will solve the nitrogen part of the fertility problem for us."

This statement does not cover the whole situation, by any means, declares Farmers' Review. How can a rotation with legumes settle the nitrogen question when the legumes cannot be made to grow in the first place? And often, even when they do grow well, it is several years before nodules develop on the roots, without which nodules no increase in nitrogen can be made.

It very often happens that the cheapest way to supply nitrogen is to buy it, even at 15 cents a pound. It takes several years to get nitrogen from the air by the help of leguminous plants, even under the best conditions; that is, to get enough of it to count for much.

The process of gathering nitrogen from the air is one of growth and decay. A soil deficient in nitrogen cannot produce the plants desired, and if they are produced they will be so small and weak that they will amount to nothing when they decay. Therefore before plants can be grown at all luxuriantly it is necessary to add to the soil nitrogen as well as other elements of plant food.

It is better to add to the soil a liberal amount of some form of nitrogenous fertilizer than to take chances on gradually developing the nitrogen producing bacteria in the soil. Therefore in the very first stages of solving the nitrogen problem, it may be necessary to make considerable purchases of chemical nitrogen.

But after the first good start has been made, it should not be necessary to again have resort to commercial nitrogen. There are many plants that are hardy and produce pods, and all pod-producing plants are nitrogen gatherers. Either clover or peas will stand severe conditions of drought, if they are well rooted. Clover and alfalfa will both stand winter conditions. Where red clover will not do well, alsyke clover or white clover will.

In some sections, cow peas and soy beans will do well and can be grown for plowing under. Southern localities are, however, likely to reap the most benefit from these two plants. This must be said about cow peas and soy beans, that they have a limited root system and so if only the roots are plowed under they do not give the beneficial results secured from the plowing under of a clover sod.

In any rotation carried on for the purpose of keeping up the supply of nitrogen, the leguminous crop must be brought in often enough to give the results desired. How often this leguminous crop should be grown will depend on the natural richness of the particular field in nitrogen and also on the kinds of crops being generally grown as well as the quantities of crops taken off.

## KEEPING SEED CORN.

**See That It Is Thoroughly Dry Before Freezing Weather.**

Never let it freeze before it is dry. We have had seed corn exposed to a temperature of 30 degrees below zero without injuring its vitality, and have had it ruined at ten degrees above zero. We would not recommend kiln drying for the general farmer, as this is only practical where a grower is in the seed business.

We have found, says Farm and Home, a very convenient way is to take four pieces 4x4 six feet long, set them up in a square, and nail laths on them two and two opposite. leave a six-inch space between the laths so the corn will have plenty of ventilation. Lay your corn on this to dry, and if thoroughly dry it can lay there all winter.

**Cement and Steel Culverts.**

The price of lumber in the near future will stop the idea of building bridges and culverts of wood. Cement and steel must take its place. There is nothing cheaper than cement, if durability is figured. It is cheaper than corrugated steel, glazed sewer pipe, lumber or cast-iron pipe. Bridges will come to be made of arched spans of concrete, steel beams cement covered, or steel beams with checkered steel floors. Piling, piers and abutments can be made of concrete and will stay for all time.

## BRIEF HINTS.

Never put soil or sods on top of a gravel road. It simply means mud in wet weather and dust when the season is dry.

Supply the hopper so the mill will grind, no matter what kind of an animal your mill may be.

Be good to yourself by being good to your stock.